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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : Tooru Arai
FOR : **TORQUE MEASURING DEVICE
ASSURING TIMELY MAINTENANCE
WORK**
SERIAL NO. : 10/735,463
FILED : December 12, 2003
EXAMINER : UNKNOWN
ART UNIT : 3616
CONFIRMATION NO. : 2476
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : **SZIZ 2 00028**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609, applicant(s) submit(s) the following Disclosure Statement concerning art of which the applicant(s) is (are) aware. A copy of PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein or submitted herewith is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with the United States Patent and Trademark Office OG Notice dated 05 August 2003, waiving the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, Applicant(s) has not enclosed copies of the cited U.S. patents and applications with this Disclosure.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b) exists.

Under § 1.98(a)(3), no concise explanation of relevance is required for information that is in the English language. Accordingly, the enclosed require(s) no further explanation (or no translation is available). All of the cited and/or included references were cited by the European Patent Office in a related application(s).

Consideration of the appropriate paragraph(s) indicated below is respectfully requested:

☐ **WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING:** Under § 1.97(b)(1), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

☒ **BEFORE FIRST OFFICE ACTION:** Under § 1.97(b)(3), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

☐ **INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT:** Under § 1.97(e)(1), the undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

☐ **BEFORE FINAL ACTION/WITH FEE:** Under § 1.97(c)(2), this information shall be considered if filed before the mailing date of a final action if accompanied by a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by §1.17(p). Accordingly, the necessary fee accompanies this Information Disclosure Statement. Any overpayment or deficiency can be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

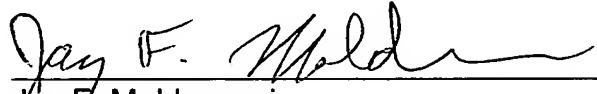
☐ **PRIORITY CLAIM:** The attached PTO 1449 Form includes all patents, publications, or other information previously cited by or submitted to the Office in one or more prior applications from which the present application claims priority. These one or more prior applications are identified in the papers accompanying the filing of this application. In accordance with § 609 MPEP, only copies of art not previously submitted are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the attached document(s) be considered and officially cited in examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP

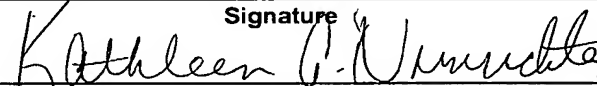
August 10, 2004
Date

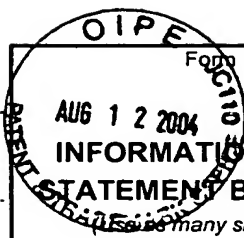

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216/861-5582

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying document(s) are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Date
August 10, 2004

Signature

Printed Name
Kathleen A. Nimrichter

 Form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT(S) (See as many sheets as necessary)		COMPLETE IF KNOWN	
		Application Number	10/735,463
		Filing Date	December 12, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Tooru Arai
		Art Unit	3616
Sheet 1 of 1		Examiner Name	
		Attorney Docket No.	SZIZ 2 00028

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document No. Number-Kind Code (if known)	Issue Date/ Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	AA	US-5,155,468	10/13/1992	Stanley et al.
	AB	US-4,767,925	08/30/1988	Kawamoto
	AC	US-		
	AD	US-		
	AE	US-		
	AF	US-		
	AG	US-		
	AH	US-		
	AI	US-		
	AJ	US-		
	AK	US-		
	AL	US-		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code-Number Kind Code (if known)	Issue Date/ Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T
	AM	EP 1 170 577	01/09/2002	Minebea Co., Ltd.	
	AN				
	AO				
	AP				

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume/issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T
	AQ		
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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